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GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY: U.S. COMMITMENT TO ACTION



"The question is not whether we can end hunger, it's whether we will."

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton

More than one billion people — one sixth of the world's population — suffer from chronic hunger. Without enough food, adults struggle to work and children struggle to learn. Global food supplies must increase by an estimated 50 percent to meet expected demand in the next 20 years. Advancing sustainable agricultural-led growth increases the availability of food, keeps food affordable, and raises the incomes of the poor. Read More

GLOBAL HUNGER AND FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28 -- The United States and its partners are pursuing a comprehensive approach to food security based on country and community-led planning and collaboration. Following the Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's speech about food security at the Clinton Global Initiative, a consultation document was released to outline a statement of principles and approach.

In the coming weeks and months, the United States will work with partners to develop operational details to implement this strategy. The United States looks forward to developing that detail in consultation with partners throughout the U.S. Government as well as with other countries, international institutions, civil society organizations, the private sector, and—most importantly—small scale farmers and related agriculture producers. Read More: Consultation Document

CALL TO ACTION - ACT NOW

Join us in combating global hunger by taking these steps today:

- Learn more about the U.S. plan to fight hunger.
- Watch our video and share it with your friends and family.
- Learn about what other organizations are doing to confront this crisis.
- Join us on Facebook and be a part of the discussion today.

Join the fight against hunger – sign up to get updates on how you can be a part of the solution.

FOOD SECURITY: US STATE DEPARTMENT FACT SHEET

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24 -- The U.S. Department of State released a fact sheet, outlining the United States commitment to working as part of a collaborative global effort centered around country-led processes to improve food security.

The United States is working with stakeholders to advance action that addresses the needs of small scale farmers and agri-businesses, and harnesses the power of women to drive economic growth. We will increase our investment in agriculture development while maintaining our support for humanitarian food assistance. Read More

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

Improving agricultural productivity is essential to combating hunger worldwide. The U.S. food security strategy includes working with partner countries to:

- Increase access to inputs such as seed, feed, fertilizer, machinery and irrigation systems.
- Expand access to research and new developments to farmers through extension services.
- Work to increase access to rural financial services including microfinance, community savings and innovative insurance.
- Promote sustainable natural resource management to increase productivity and reduce environmental degradation.

NUTRITION

Poor nutrition takes an ongoing toll on human health worldwide. The U.S. food security strategy aims to:

- Strengthen community- based nutrition programs, particularly for pregnant women, infants and children.
- Improve diet quality and diversity through family gardens, food fortification and nutrition research.
- Promote community management of acute undernutrition by timely detection, outpatient treatment and inpatient treatment.
- Improve the nutritional value of food aid commodities.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Humanitarian assistance to countries fighting hunger will be most effective if it contributes to long-term development solutions. U.S. programs will be targeted to:

- Strengthen coordination of U.S. food assistance among donor and delivery agencies.
- Improve global forecasting of emergency need and multilateral coordination.
- Purchase food in recipient countries or provide vouchers to households to purchase their own food.
- Increase local capacity to reduce vulnerability including through early warning systems, emergency preparedness and risk reduction.

COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Food security programs must be better coordinated within the country being assisted, within the U.S. Government, and among governments and private sector partners. U.S. food security efforts will seek to:

- Strengthen the country-led planning process.
- Continue to work across agencies to develop a whole-of-government strategy.
- Work across sectors to engage foundations, the private sector, universities, and nongovernmental and civil society organizations in planning and implementation.

Seeking a World Without Hunger - Secretary Clinton's Remarks



SECRETARY CLINTON DELIVERS A SPEECH ON FOOD SECURITY

"Some may ask how is food security related to our own future – those of us here in the United States. Well, the answer is that food security is not just about food. But it is all about security – economic security, environmental security, even national security.... The Obama Administration has developed an unprecedented initiative aimed at advancing food security worldwide. The scope and scale of this initiative represents an elevation of development as a key element of our foreign policy. And our approach represents a rethinking of development policies and priorities."



Secretary of State Hillary Clinton New York, NY, September 25, 2009

NEW YORK, Sept. 25 -- Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton delivered remarks at the closing plenary session of the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Clinton Global Initiative. In her address, the Secretary described the United States' effort to advance food security worldwide and discussed the threat that massive hunger poses to the stability of governments, societies, and borders. She emphasized that agricultural-led development is critical to economic growth around the world, discussed the links between food, energy and climate change security, and underscored the importance of collaboration in tackling global hunger. Read More



A Global Approach to Food Security





FOOD SECURITY EVENT AT THE UNITED NATIONS

"We want to make sure that enough food is available, and that people have the resources to purchase it. That is a key foreign policy objective of President Obama and our administration. This is an issue that affects all of us, because food security is about economic, environmental, and national security for our individual homelands and the world."

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton United Nations, NY, September 26, 2009

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 26 -- During the UN General Assembly, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon co-hosted a meeting of high-level international stakeholders to discuss key food security issues and how best, together, we can work to eradicate hunger. Secretary Clinton delivered opening and closing remarks, framing the breadth and emphasizing the global impact of chronic hunger. Speakers discussed the five guiding principles that were introduced at the July 2009 G8 summit Italy, which more than two dozen stakeholders signed onto. These principles animate U.S. efforts in addressing the global food security:

- Comprehensively address the underlying causes of hunger and under-nutrition
- Invest in country-led plans
- Strengthen strategic coordination
- Leverage the benefits of multilateral institutions
- Make sustained and accountable commitments

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